

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Office of the Inspector General**

Inspector General



January 3, 2003

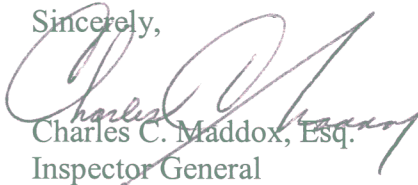
Mr. Colbert I. King  
Deputy Editor  
The Washington Post  
1150 15<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20071

Dear Mr. King:

I was pleased to read your Washington Post column on Saturday, December 28, 2002, entitled "The District of Corruption." You accurately described several instances of waste, fraud, and abuse that have been addressed by investigations which the Office of the Inspector General conducted either solely or as part of a joint venture with other law enforcement agencies. Those instances include the ongoing investigation of allegations involving embezzlement of more than two million dollars of Washington Teachers Union funds, the investigation into improper fundraising activities by the Executive Office of the Mayor, the convictions of a former executive director of D.C. Community Services for a \$350,000 embezzlement scheme, a group home worker for assaulting a mentally retarded patient, and a care provider for her role in the drowning death of a nursing home resident. As noted in the Post's extensive coverage of the Mayor's inaugural address, the Mayor did make a point to underscore his commitment to aggressively pursue those in government who, in his words, "defraud the taxpayers and betray the public trust."

Your readers should know that, as a Mayoral appointee, I too remain vigilante in this effort. In 1995, District leaders – with strong Congressional support – passed laws to establish an effective and independent Inspector General's Office. Thanks to their efforts, this Office has the clear mandate and resources to continue to audit the city's financial records and to act as a watchdog over the city government in an effort to ferret out fraud, waste, theft of property, mismanagement and violations of ethical standards wherever they are found. As the Mayor indicated in his speech, the public will continue to hear about government misdeeds in the coming four years. My commitment to District residents is that they can expect the Office of the Inspector General to continue doing its part to improve management efficiency and build public trust.

Sincerely,

  
Charles C. Maddox, Esq.  
Inspector General